Thursday, June 25, 2009 Contact Jim Hubbard (202) 225-2671

Funding Headed to Missouri Will Speed Adoption of Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technologies

(WASHINGTON) - Because Missouri has proposed a statewide plan that prioritizes energy savings, creates and retains jobs, increases the use of renewable energy, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions today the U.S. Department of Energy announced \$22.9 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in Missouri.

"As Congress continues working on comprehensive energy legislation designed to create new clean-energy jobs here in the U.S., I am pleased to see \$23 million headed to Missouri today. Missouri has presented a detailed plan quickly and because of that will be receiving funds that will save consumers money on their utility bills and put people back to work," said Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3).

Under DOE's State Energy Program (SEP), Missouri will expand its existing Energy Center program, which includes a variety of home efficiency programs, building energy codes, and education and training initiatives. The funding will go toward encouraging Missourians to reduce their energy consumption by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, industrial facilities, agricultural operations, transportation, schools and local governments.

"The economic recovery passed earlier this year is beginning to slow the growth of unemployment," said Congressman Carnahan. "It will take time to be where we want to be, but the energy provisions enacted earlier this year are making its way to states like Missouri

at an unprecedented speed. This is the kind of down payment we need to create clean-energy jobs, secure our energy independence and stabilize energy costs for consumers."

Missouri will also focus on finding energy efficiency opportunities in its five most energy-intensive industrial/manufacturing categories: aluminum, chemicals, food products,

metal casting, and forest products including paper. These energy-intensive industries will be examined to determine specific, targeted activities to increase energy efficiency. The state intends to increase industrial and manufacturing energy efficiency through a multi-faceted program that may include energy audits, rebates and low-interest loans, workshops and development of a web-based audit tool. The Energy Center will also play a key role in providing training to ensure a workforce capable of assessing and deploying energy efficiency technologies.

With today's announcement, Missouri will now have received 50% of its total Recovery Act SEP funding. The initial 10% of total funding was previously available to support planning activities; the remaining 50% of funds will be released once it meets reporting, oversight, and accountability milestones required by the Recovery Act. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, Missouri will receive more than \$28.6 million in additional funding, for a total of more than \$57 million.

Congressman Russ Carnahan serves on the U.S. House Science and Technology Committee and is a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC). SEEC advances policies that promote clean energy technology innovation and domestic manufacturing, develop renewable energy resources, create clean-energy jobs, help arrest global warming and protect our nation's clean air, water and natural environment.

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